

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/758,989

Examiner

David N. Spector

Applicant(s)

TANG, YIN S.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to FAOM.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-31.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 07 June 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 0104/20040116
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☒ Other DETAILED ACTION.

DETAILED ACTION - ALLOWANCE***Election/Restrictions***

Applicant's election with traverse of claims 1-15 and 23-31 (*i.e. drawn a method of making a microlens array*) in the reply filed on May 26, 2005, is acknowledged. The traversal is on the ground(s) that the invention commensurate with claims 1-15 and 23-31, and the invention commensurate with non-elected claims 16-22 (*i.e. drawn to a display screen comprising a microlens array*) are not, in fact, distinct. Additionally, applicant has amended independent claim 1 and independent 16 to further clarify certain aspects of the instant invention based on discussions with the examiner prior to filing the aforesaid reply.

The arguments/amendments advanced by applicant are found to be persuasive because the method now recited in independent claim (amended) 1, is clearly associated with manufacture the microlens array recited in independent claim (amended) 16. The restriction requirement set forth in the Office action mailed May 12, 2005 is no longer deemed proper and is therefore withdrawn.

Reasons for Allowance

Claims 1-31 are allowed. All pending claims thus being allowable, prosecution on the merits is closed in this application. A statement of the examiner's reasons for allowance is provided in the following paragraph.

The instant application is directed to a novel/nonobvious improvement over the invention previously disclosed by applicant in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/754,365 filed on January 8, 2004. In particular, the instant invention provides a method for making a microlens array and a display screen comprising such a microlens array, in which a bundle of optically transparent members is cut to form a sheet of optically transparent member segments and subsequently heated to form an array individually curved lens segments thereupon (*e.g. as originally disclosed in 10/754,365*) wherein: a step for covering at least one of the aforesaid lens segments with a light-shielding layer is further recited (Claim 1, Lines 8-9), or a light shielding layer is disposed adjacent to the sheet and adapted to block a portion of the light leaving each of the optically transparent members (Claim 16, Lines 6-7), or by covering a portion of the lens surface on

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the first ends with a light shielding-layer (Claim 23, Line 9-10), as recited, *inter alia*, in each of the instant independent claims. The prior art taken either singly or in combination fails to anticipate or fairly suggest the limitations of applicant's independent claims, in such a manner that a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102 or 103 would be proper. The claimed invention is therefore considered to be in condition for allowance as being novel and nonobvious over prior art.

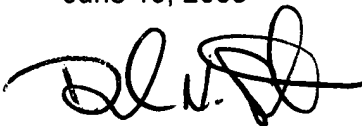
Other Remarks/Information

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Any other inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David N. Spector whose telephone number is (571) 272-2338. The examiner can normally be reached at this number Monday through Friday between 6:00 AM and 2:30 PM. The fax number for the organization where this application is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

June 10, 2005

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. N. Spector', with a stylized flourish at the end.

DAVID N. SPECTOR
PRIMARY EXAMINER